Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
REGION VI – WESTERN VISAYAS
SCHOOLS DIVISION OF AKLAN

October 12, 2026

DIVISION MEMORANDUM
No.619, s. 2026

OBSERVANCE OF NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY

To: Assistant Schools Division Superintendent
Chief Education Supervisors
Education Program Supervisors
Public Schools District Supervisors, Principals In-Charge of the District
Head Teacher In-Charge of the District
Senior/Education Program Specialists
Heads of Public and Private Elementary/Integrated/Secondary Schools
All Others Concerned

1. Attached is a Memorandum from the Department of Education Secretary Sonny Angara titled, **Observance of National School Safety**, dated **October 9, 2026**, which is self-explanatory.

2. School Heads are hereby directed to observe and submit necessary reports and mode of verification to the Schools Division Office through the **Learner Rights and Protection Division** - Focal Person, **Attn: Allan Carlo C. Soriano, Project Development Officer I**.

3. District Learner Rights and Protection Coordinators shall ensure that all private and publics schools in their respective districts have accomplished all the necessary documentation as Mode of Verification.

4. The following documentation such MOVs: Collaged Photos; Activity/Accomplishment Report (School Format); and Video Clips (Maximum of 7) shall be submitted to the link provided until **October 19, 2026, 1500h**: ***https://forms.gle/cLuJPuxV1nVbQcgN8***

5. Immediate dissemination of this Memorandum is desired.

FELICIANO C. BUENAFE, JR. CESO V
Schools Division Superintenden

Encl.: As stated
Reference: As stated
To be indicated in the Perpetual Index
Under the following subjects:
LEARNERS **PERSONNEL** **SCHOOL SAFETY**

ACCS

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM

TO : **Undersecretaries**
Assistant Secretaries
Bureau and Service Directors
Regional Directors
Schools Division Superintendents
Public Elementary and Secondary School Heads
All Others Concerned

FROM : **SONNY ANGARA**
Secretary

SUBJECT : **Observance of the National School Safety Week**

DATE : October 9, 2026

1. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall observe the **National School Safety Week** on **October 12–16, 2026**, in all public elementary and secondary schools and Community Learning Centers (CLCs) nationwide. Consistent with DepEd Order No. 006, s. 2026, or the Guidelines on Ensuring a Safe and Motivating Learning Environment (ESMLE), the observance shall strengthen prevention mechanisms against learner rights protection concerns, enhance awareness of school safety protocols, and promote active stakeholder participation in maintaining safe, inclusive, protective, and conducive learning environments for all learners.

2. The National School Safety Week shall commence with a simultaneous flag ceremony on Monday, October 12, 2026, in all DepEd schools and CLCs. Consistent with the whole-of-society approach under the ESMLE framework, school heads shall invite and facilitate the participation of the following stakeholders:

a. Parents and guardians;
b. Barangay officials, including barangay health workers (BHWs);
c. Local representatives of the Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), Department of Health (DOH), Department of Information

and Communications Technology (DICT), Cybercrime Investigation and Coordinating Center (CICC), Philippine Health Insurance Corporation (PhilHealth), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), and Philippine National Police (PNP).

The flag ceremony may include brief messages from the school head and participating partner agencies on their respective roles in promoting learner safety and fostering safe, inclusive, and supportive learning environments in both physical and virtual settings. This shall be followed by the recitation of the ***Panata para sa Ligtas, Inklusibo, at Maalagang Paaralan*** and the signing of the **School Safety Commitment Wall (Annex A)**.

3. Teachers are instructed to integrate school safety lessons through the Homeroom Guidance Program (HGP), Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC), and Values Education (VE). The lessons shall be age-appropriate and may cover the following:

a. Learners' rights and the prevention of bullying, violence, abuse, and gender-based harassment;
b. Responsible digital citizenship and online safety;
c. Disaster preparedness, fire safety, and health and hygiene practices;
d. School-based reporting and referral mechanisms, including the Child Protection Committee (CPC) and Learner Formation Officer; and
e. Access to emergency hotlines, including 911, 1383 (MAKABATA Helpline), 1553 (NCMH Crisis Hotline), and (02) 8632-1372 (Learners' Telesafe Contact Center Helpline).

Relevant learning resources are available through:
https://tinyurl.com/BLDHubSELDigitalLiteracy

4. The National School Safety Week shall also introduce the **My Buddy System,** a peer support strategy that pairs learners, or organizes them into small peer groups, to provide support, guidance, and companionship. The initiative aims to help learners feel welcome, included, and more confident in participating in school life.

The Department, through the Bureau of Learner Support Services, shall conduct an orientation for school heads on the design, safeguards, and implementation arrangements of the My Buddy System. In this regard, school heads are directed to:

a. **Provide guideposts on program implementation.** Issue clear guidance and direction to school personnel and learners on how to carry out the My Buddy System effectively; and

b. **Contextualize implementation.** Adapt and execute the My Buddy System taking into consideration the unique situations, needs, and operational capacities of their respective schools.

5. Regional offices, through the Learner Rights and Protection Section (LRPS), shall disseminate this Memorandum to the schools division offices (SDOs), provide the necessary technical assistance, and monitor the implementation of the activities. The SDOs shall consolidate the reports submitted by schools and CLCs and submit a consolidated accomplishment report, with supporting documentation, to the Learner Rights and Protection Division (LRPD) within fifteen (15) calendar days after the observance.

6. Expenses incurred in the conduct of the activities under this Memorandum shall be charged against available and appropriate funds, including school Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE), subject to existing budgeting, accounting, auditing, and procurement laws rules and regulations.

7. Immediate dissemination of and strict compliance with this Memorandum is directed.

Annex A

PANATA NG BUONG KOMUNIDAD PARA SA MAS LIGTAS NA PAARALAN

Bilang bahagi ng isang nagkakaisang komunidad,
buong puso kaming nangangakong pangangalagaan ang bawat bata
at itataguyod ang kanilang kaligtasan, kalusugan, at kapakanan.

Nangangako kaming itaguyod ang mga paaralang ligtas, mapagkalinga, at gumagalang sa dignidad at karapatan ng bawat bata.

Maninindigan kami laban sa bullying, karahasan, diskriminasyon, at anumang uri ng pang-aabuso.

Pakikinggan namin ang mga bata, igagalang ang kanilang tinig, at tutugon sa kanilang mga pangangailangan at hinaing.

Gagabayan at poprotektahan namin ang mga bata laban sa anumang panganib, sa loob man o labas ng paaralan.

Taglay ang diwa ng malasakit at pagkakaisa, nangangako kaming magtutulungan at sama-samang kikilos, sapagkat ang kaligtasan at kapakanan ng bawat bata ay pananagutan nating lahat.

Para sa bawat batang ligtas, malusog, at panatag ang kalooban.

Para sa bawat batang malayang matuto, umunlad, at mangarap.

Ito ang aming panata. Ito ang aming pananagutan.

The **School Safety Commitment Wall template** may be accessed through the following link: **https://tinyurl.com/CommitmentTarp**

Safe Schools.
Resilient Communities.
A Brighter Future.



Safety is Everyone's Responsibility.

DepED
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BAGONG PILIPINAS

OBSERVANCE OF THE

NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY WEEK

OCTOBER 12–16, 2026

Building Safer Schools.
Protecting Every Learner.

- SAFE LEARNERS
- INCLUSIVE SCHOOLS
- SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES
- BRIGHTER FUTURES

WHAT IS THE NATIONAL SCHOOL SAFETY WEEK?

The National School Safety Week is an annual observance of the Department of Education (DepEd) on October 12–16, 2026, in all public elementary and secondary schools and Community Learning Centers (CLCs) based on the DepEd Memorandum issued by Secretary Sonny M. Angara dated October 9, 2026.

It aims to strengthen prevention mechanisms against learner rights protection concerns, enhance awareness of school safety protocols, and promote active stakeholder participation in maintaining safe, inclusive, protective, and conducive learning environments for all learners.



KEY ACTIVITIES OF THE WEEK

SIMULTANEOUS FLAG CEREMONY

Monday, October 12, 2026
in all DepEd schools and CLCs, with the participation of parents, guardians, partner agencies, and the whole school community with the simultaneous recitation of Panata ng Buong Komunidad Para sa Mas Ligtas na Paaralan.

SCHOOL SAFETY LESSONS

Integrated through Homeroom Guidance Program (HGP), Good Manners and Right Conduct (GMRC), and Values Education (VE).

MY BUDDY SYSTEM

A peer support strategy that pairs learners, or organizes them into small peer groups, to provide support, guidance, and companionship.

COMMITMENT WALL SIGNING

A school-wide activity where learners, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders affix their signatures or messages of commitment to uphold a safe, inclusive, and respectful school environment.



AREAS OF FOCUS

- Learners' rights and the prevention of bullying, violence, abuse, and gender-based harassment
- Responsible digital citizenship and online safety
- Disaster preparedness, fire safety, and health and hygiene practices
- School-based reporting and referral mechanisms, including the Child Protection Committee (CPC) and Learner Formation Officer
- Access to emergency hotlines

EMERGENCY HOTLINES

911	1383	1553	(02) 8632-6572
NATIONAL EMERGENCY HOTLINE	MAKABATA HELPLINE	NATIONAL CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS HOTLINE	LEARNER'S TELESAYE CONTACT CENTER HELPLINE

LEARNING RESOURCES

Relevant learning resources are available through:

https://tinyurl.com/BLDHubSELDigitalLiteracy

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